

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

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DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR/REG:LFISCHER

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:DLINEBAUGH

NSC:SHADLEY

JCS:CALDERMAN

OSD/ISA:LMICHAEL

PM/DCA:VBAKER

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

C:WSHINN

ACDA/IR:TJHIRSCHFELD

S/S:WHLUERS

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TO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

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S E C R E T STATE 239785

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT:MBFR: LIMITATION OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER

REFS: A. MBFR VIENNA 353 B. STATE 236950 C. NATO 6015

1. REF A RAISED QUESTION OF CONTINUATION OF EXTENDED NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT INTO PHASE II. IN OUR VIEW, RAISING

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THIS POINT NOW MIGHT DELAY SPC APPROVAL OF NO-INCREASE

EXTENSION. FOLLOW-ON CONSIDERATION OF INCLUSION OF AIR PERSONNEL IN THE COMMON CEILING IS BETTER CONTEXT TO ADDRESS PHASE II ISSUE. WE THEREFORE AGREE WITH MISSION'S ANALYSIS (REF C).

2. SINCE WE ARE PROPOSING THAT THE NO-INCREASE ASSURANCE BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES, THE LIMITED DURATION OF THE ORIGINAL COMMITMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY. IF THE EXTENDED NO-INCREASE PROPOSAL, BUT NOT THE OTHER US AIR MANPOWER PROPOSALS, WERE INCORPORATED IN AN AGREEMENT, THE LIMITATION ON AIR MANPOWER COULD LAPSE IF A PHASE II AGREEMENT INCLUDING AIR PERSONNEL WERE NOT REACHED. FOR THIS REASON AS WELL AS THEIR BASIC INTEREST IN AIR FORCES, THE EAST WILL OF COURSE ARGUE FOR INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II.

3. CONTINUATION OF THE EXTENDED NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT INTO A PHASE II AGREEMENT (ALONG LINES SUGGESTED IN PARA 3,

REF A), IS TANTAMOUNT TO INCLUDING AIR PERSONNEL IN AN AGGREGATE AIR-GROUND COMMON CEILING SET AT A LEVEL THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE AIR PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS. WE PREFER TO SEEK NATO AGREEMENT TO SUCH INCLUSION EXPLICITLY (REF B) LATER. WHILE INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II IS A SENSITIVE ISSUE FOR THE ALLIES, WE BELIEVE ITS INCLUSION IN THE COMMON CEILING WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER APPROPRIATE DISCUSSION AND STUDY.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, WE DO NOT WISH TO PREJUDICE CHANCES FOR EARLY SPC APPROVAL OF THE NO-INCREASE EXTENSION BY RAISING ISSUE OF PHASE II LIMITATIONS. IF NO INCREASE EXTENSION IS APPROVED, SPC CAN THEN MOVE TO CONSIDER INCLUSION IN THE COMMON CEILING. INGERSOLL

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